

REMARKS

Claims 1-53 were presented for examination, are pending and are rejected.
Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Cancellation of Claims

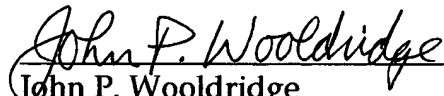
To reduce issues on appeal, claims 32-40, 45 and 46 are cancelled.

Conclusions

It is submitted that this application is in condition for allowance based on claims 1-31, 41-44 and 47-53 in view of the amendments thereto and the foregoing comments.

If any impediments remain to prompt allowance of the case, please contact the undersigned at 925-456-2279.

Respectfully submitted,


John P. Wooldridge
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 38,725

Dated: May 13, 2003